Proposal to replenish Indian Airlines Fleet

821. SHRI RAJUBHAI A. PARMAR: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indian Airlines propose to replenish its fleet;

(b) if so, the number and details of new aircrafts proposed to be procured for the purpose; and

(c) the steps taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) and (b) Indian Airlines is considering acquisition of six 50 seater aircraft to operate on short haul routes.

(c) An In-house committee has been set up by Indian Airlines for evaluating the offers of Short-listed Companies.

Air service between Madras and Neyveli

822. DR. D. MASTAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering to introduce air service between Madras and Neyveli as social commitment as is done in Northern and North-eastern region to overcome the difficulties of the people of the region;

(b) whether it is a fact that the Neyveli Lignite Corporation had agreed to book some seats regularly in the flight; and

(c) if so, what is the current position?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) Neyveli airfield is not fit for operations by jet aircraft which is the only type of aircraft available in the fleet of Indian Airlines. Nor has any private operator come forward, so far, to start air services to/from Neyveli.

(b) and (c) No specific request has been received from Neyveli.

Action plan to prevent mishaps in new plants of NTPC

823. SHRI NILOTPAL BASU:
SHRI DIPANKAR MUKHERJEE:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are seriously contemplating any action plan to prevent the series of explosion/failures in newly commissioned plants of NTPC viz. explosion in boiler of Kahalgaon unit in September 1992, failure of DSP in unit IV of Farakka in January 1994 and explosion in 500 MW turbo generator of Talcher plant in October 1995;

(b) whether suppliers in all the above cases have been foreign companies, if so, whether suitable contracted obligations had been incorporated for compensation of losses, against the deemed generation during the shut down period; and